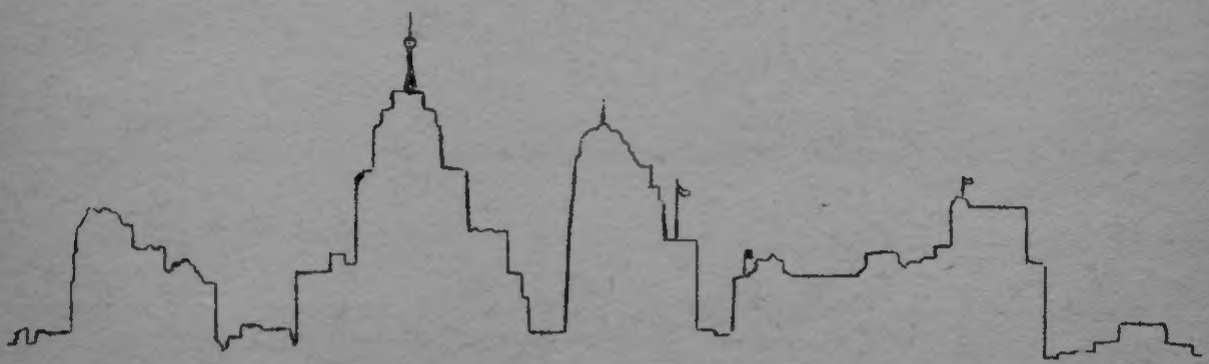
THE BRIGHT PROMISE

". . . Neighborhood Conservation is above all a promise to the people of a cleaner, more open, healthier urban community in which to live, work, and raise their children".



THE DETROIT COMMITTEE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION AND IMPROVED HOUSING

- ★ WHAT IT IS
- ★ HOW IT WORKS
- ★ HOW EACH PERSON CAN HELP TO CONSERVE HIS NEIGHBORHOOD
- ★ HOW THE COMMITTEE CAN HELP YOU

WHAT IS THE COMMITTEE?

The Committee is a group of civic leaders organized to prevent neighborhood decay. It was created not because of the needs of the city, but because of the needs of the citizen!

One half of the members represent civic, business and industrial associations; the other half are heads of City agencies. The chairman is Dr. Joseph G. Molner, Health Commissioner.

The Committee functions mainly as an advisory group, coordinating the work of all agencies engaged in Neighborhood Conservation activities.

HOW DOES THE CONSERVATION PROGRAM WORK?

Neighborhood Conservation is a two-sided program. Its success depends upon the cooperation of government and private citizens.

Current plans call for the city and federal governments to spend approximately $275 million for capital improvements in neighborhoods that are essentially sound and livable. The improvements include playgrounds, school additions, traffic control, alley lighting and the removal of some objectionable commercial buildings.

At the same time, private citizens must work together at neighborhood betterment while making individual home improvements.

* * *

Deterioration can take place in any kind of neighborhood! Due to this fact, Detroit's neighborhoods have been classified as "new", "middle-aged" or "old" and a specific plan of action has been developed for each.

The Committee has three objectives:

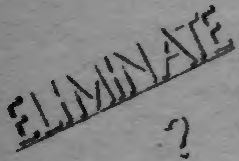
1. To maintain and improve "new" areas.
2. To renew sound "middle-aged" areas.
3. To stop deterioration of "old" areas.

HOW CAN I HELP TO CONSERVE MY NEIGHBORHOOD?

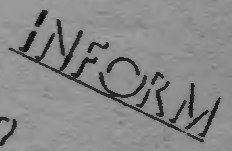
Each citizen can participate by giving his support to Detroit's conservation program and by taking action to insure the well-being of his own neighborhood. Here are the "seven steps to a better neighborhood":

You cannot do the job alone! The only way to insure success is to cooperate with your neighbors. Begin by organizing your block and, when that is successfully done, organize the entire neighborhood. You can obtain professional guidance in organizing a large area.

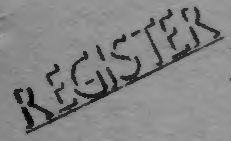
Appoint a committee to inspect the entire neighborhood for conditions which could cause decay. Look for such things as: buildings in need of paint, rundown lawns and yards, insanitary alley conditions, and lack of recreational facilities.



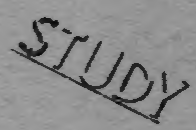
Plan and work as a group to eliminate these conditions and to prevent them from recurring. This applies to private home improvements as well as to group projects on a cooperative, neighborhood-wide basis.



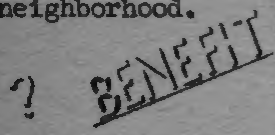
Keep each other informed of current problems and projects through a neighborhood newsletter. In order to maintain the interest of your members, you must let them know what is going on.



In order to keep abreast of new developments throughout the city, register with the Committee Office; and register with the Board of Zoning Appeals so that you will be informed of changes planned in your area.



Cooperate with city government by studying the various codes and ordinances and working with the city agencies to enforce them. It is also helpful to study Detroit's Master Plan with emphasis on the specific plans for your neighborhood.



You will benefit by living in a clean, beautiful neighborhood in which your investment will remain secure. And most important, you will enjoy with your neighbors the friendliness of a small community.

HOW CAN THE COMMITTEE HELP ME?

ADVISORY AID -Advisory Aid is available when problems or difficulties occur. Committee staff members will be happy to consult with group representatives or to refer specific complaints to the proper agencies.

ORGANIZATIONAL AID -Any block or neighborhood wishing to form a club will, on application, receive the assistance of a specialist in community organization.

SPEAKERS BUREAU -Qualified speakers are available for meetings of neighborhood, civic, or business organizations. In addition to speaking and answering questions, Committee representatives will show the following films:

"Man of Action": A 15 minute color movie showing how one man organizes a whole town.

"You and Your Neighborhood": Another 15 minute color film outlining conservation methods.

A color slide program of variable length which explains in some detail the Detroit program.

PRINTED MATERIALS -Bulletins and pamphlets on such broad subjects as Neighborhood Conservation and Block Organization or such specific ones as Sidewalks, Lawns and Alleys are available in quantity free of charge. For a complete list of materials, write or call the Committee office.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Greater Detroit and Wayne County Industrial Union Council
Builders' Ass'n. of Metro. Detroit
Mortgage Bankers Association
Federal Housing Administration
Inter-Group Council for Women as Public Policy Makers
Detroit Lumbermen's Association
Detroit Federation of Women's Clubs
Central Business District Ass'n.
League of Women Voters
Neighborhood Service Organization
Jewish Community Council
United Community Services
Detroit Education Association
Detroit Real Estate Board
Junior Board of Commerce
Allied Veterans Council
Detroit Urban League
Detroit Council of Churches
Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit
Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor
Detroit Council of PTA's
Detroit Real Estate Brokers' Ass'n.
and All City Departments

Committee Office
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